

Claims

~~Sub A1~~ 1. A method for treating hypertension or for reducing or preventing development of elevated blood pressure which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of 5 secoisolariciresinol diglucoside (SDG) in substantially pure form.

~~Sub A2~~ 2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the SDG is obtained from flaxseed.

10 3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the SDG has a purity of at least 95%.

~~Sub A2~~ 4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the SDG is administered in an amount of 10-30 mg/kg of body weight in a normotensive patient.

15 5. A method according to claim 3 wherein the SDG is administered in an amount of 1-15 mg/kg of body weight in a hypertensive patient.

6. A method for treating ischemic heart disease which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of SDG in substantially pure form.

20 7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the SDG is obtained from flaxseed.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein the SDG has a purity of at least 95%.

25 9. A method for treating heart failure which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of SDG in substantially pure form.

10. A method according to claim 9 wherein the SDG is obtained from flaxseed.

11. A method according to claim 9 wherein the SDG has a purity of at least 95%.

12. A method for treating intermittent claudication which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount 5 of SDG in substantially pure form.

13. A method according to claim 12 wherein the SDG is obtained from flaxseed.

14. A method according to claim 12 wherein the SDG has a purity of at least 95%.